

REMARKS

This amendment is responsive to the Office Action mailed October 31, 2007 in connection with the above-identified patent application. Claims 24 and 40 have been amended. Detailed arguments in support of patentability of claims 2-38, 40-46 and 144 are presented, and re-examination is respectfully requested. No new matter has been added.

35 U.S.C. § 103(a) Rejections

Claims 1-3, 7-25, 37-38, 40-41, 44-46, 135, 140-142 and 144 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chiou et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,700,093) ("Chiou") in view of Penfold et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,031,424) ("Penfold").

Chiou were deemed to disclose a dielectric discharge apparatus for the removal of perfluorocompound, including a housing, a first and second dielectric tube and at least one electrode disposed in the housing. The Examiner acknowledged that specific values are not taught for applied voltage. Additionally, Chiou was acknowledged to not teach the use of a wire or gap dimensions. The Examiner concluded that it would have been obvious to use a wire substrate, measure voltage and gap parameters, as taught by Penfold in the Chiou system.

Claim 1 was previously cancelled in the applicant's Amendment dated April 12, 2007. Claims 135 and 140-142 were also previously cancelled in applicant's Amendment dated April 12, 2007.

Claims 24 and 40 have each been amended to more particularly recite that a sealed light emitting cylindrical chamber (60) is located between the conductive electrode sleeve (40) and the dielectric sleeve (20). As previously acknowledged by the Examiner, Chiou and Penfold, alone or in combination, simply do not teach or suggest a separate sealed light emitting cylindrical chamber, located between the conductive electrode sleeve and the dielectric sleeve. Accordingly, claim 24, and claims 2-23, 25-38 and 144 dependent thereon and claim 40 and claims 41-46 dependent thereon are in condition for allowance.

Claims 4-6, 42-43, 134 and 136-138 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as

being unpatentable over Chiou and Penfold and further in view of Stava (U.S. Patent No. 6,365,864).

The Examiner concluded that Chiou and Penfold do not teach frequency values. Stava was deemed to disclose a wire cleaning apparatus in which the wire is within a tunnel and tube assembly. The Examiner concluded that it would have been obvious to use a frequency of 1-3 or 100-300 kHz as taught by Stava in the Chiou and Penfold system. Claims 4-6 depend from amended claim 24, and as such are in condition for allowance. Claims 134 and 136-138 were previously cancelled in an Amendment dated April 17, 2007. Claims 42 and 43 depend from amended claim 40 and are in condition for allowance.

Claims 26-36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chiou and Penfold as stated above and further in view of Shiloh et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,245,299) ("Shiloh"). The Examiner acknowledged that Chiou and Penfold do not teach a mirror or dimensions. Shiloh were deemed to disclose a barrier discharge device having a mirror compartment and cell widths, which are variable, ranging from several cm and down. The Examiner concluded that it would have been obvious to use a mirror and the dimensions taught by Shiloh in the Chiou and Penfold system. Claims 26-36 depend from amended claim 24 and are in condition for allowance.

Claim 143 (sic, 144) was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chiou and Penfold and further in view of Nakamura et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,489,585) ("Nakamura"). Chiou and Penfold were acknowledged to not teach a dielectric barrier discharge plasma. Nakamura were deemed to disclose the dielectric barrier discharge plasma of a gas, which is used to clean substrates. The Examiner concluded that it would have been obvious to use a dielectric barrier discharge plasma of a gas as taught by Nakamura in the Chiou and Penfold system. Claim 143 was previously cancelled. Claim 144 depends from amended claim 24 and is in condition for allowance.

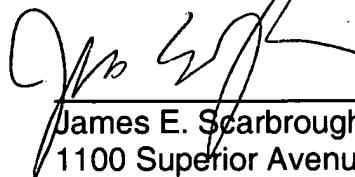
CONCLUSION

For the reasons detailed above, it is respectfully submitted all claims remaining in the application (Claims 2-38, 40-46 and 144) are now in condition for allowance.

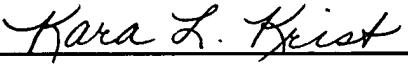
Respectfully submitted,

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1/31/08
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